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CHINA.

End of epidemic of bubonic plague at Amoy.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Amoy, China, October 15, 1898.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the bubonic plague which I reported to be epidemic at this port, June 11, ceased to be epidemic some thirty days ago. It still appeared now and then in sporadic form until within the past few days. This was especially true in many of the cities and villages near this port.

Owing to the fact that the Chinese authorities make no effort to collect any statistics bearing upon the subject, no figures can be given. Through various sources, including the native doctors trained in mission hospitals and the increased demand for coffins from coffin dealers, the United States consular surgeon estimated that the deaths in Amoy varied from 25 to 100 per day from June 15 to September 1. The maximum was reached in July, when it was cloudy, damp, and fairly cool for three weeks. Clear hot weather in the early part of August caused a drop in the fatalities for a while.

The sun's hot rays are said to be fatal to the germ, but owing to the fact that the streets are narrow and the sun seldom shines upon the pavement in the cities, and no effort is made to sun or air clothing or bedding, the scourge spreads unchecked until it runs its course. In some of the interior cities near by, the fatality far exceeded that of Amoy. In one small village of less than 300 souls, missionaries reported to me that over 75 per cent of the population died. This is the most remarkable record ever reported in this part of the Empire.

On the whole, the deaths were not so numerous as during the summer of 1897. Between 5 and 10 per cent are supposed to recover from the disease.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

A. BURLINGAME JOHNSON,
United States Consul.

HON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

CUBA.

Sanitary report from Habana.

HABANA, CUBA, *December 3, 1898.*

SIR: The following report for the week ended Thursday, December 1, is respectfully submitted. But 1 death has been recorded from yellow fever; it occurred at No. 7 Monte street, which is one of the residential streets. There has been a decided drop in the deaths from enteric and malarial fevers, while there is a slight increase in the number of deaths from pernicious fever.

There were 91 deaths from all fevers during the week, against 109 for the preceding week. The death rate from intestinal diseases remains stationary. The death rate from all causes has again decreased, although it is still much higher than the average rate in this city.

The United States transport *Roumanian*, with Acting Assistant Surgeon Hough, U. S. M. H. S., as medical officer, arrived here Thursday, December 1, with quartermaster supplies, which were discharged at San José Wharf. I suggested to Dr. Hough that if possible the vessel